

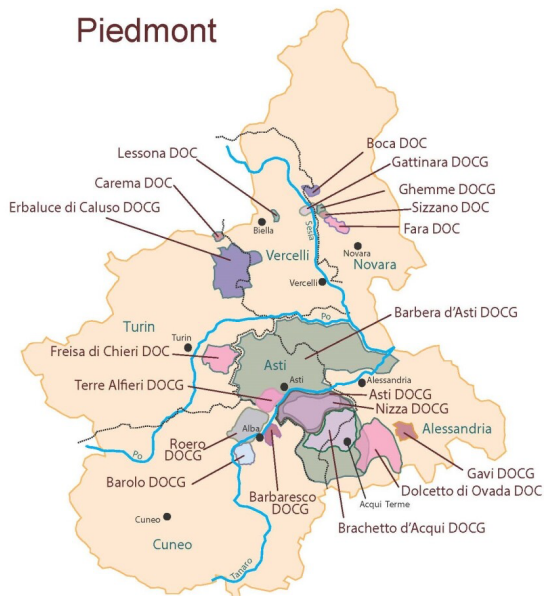
LA SPINETTA  
"produrre vini con passione"



The Bionzo Cru was purchased by La Spinetta in 1998. The vineyard is 12 acres in size and is located in Costigliole d'Asti. It features calcareous soil with sedimentary rock, sits at roughly 300 meters above sea level, and has a prime southern exposure. The vines currently average 80+ years in age.

### **Barbera d'Asti vs Barbera d'Alba.**

Giorgio Rivetti notes that the future of great Barbera is Asti. This declaration is based on one simple fact: virtually all the important hillsides in Alba area are already planted with Nebbiolo (for the production of Barbaresco and Barolo). It is very unusual that a producer continues to produce Barbera d'Alba from a Barbaresco Cru that has desired orientation to the sun, as in the case of Gallina. Barbera planted in the Alba area is usually found in locations where the conditions are not "ideal enough" for Barolo/Barbaresco, generally hillsides facing east, northeast or even due north. In the Asti area, however, the production of Barolo/Barbaresco is not allowed and therefore the most important variety is Barbera, planted years ago on the very best hillsides.



## **LA SPINETTA**

### **2021 BARBERA D'ASTI SUPERIORE DOCG "BIONZO"**

- 100% Barbera from 80+ year old vines planed in the Bionzo vineyard (in the municipality of Costigliole d'Asti)
- Certified organic farming
- Soil is clay-like limestone and marl.
- fermentation in temperature-controlled vats for an average period of 14-15 days.
- Malolactic fermentation done in French oak barrels, of which 20% is new and the balance is aged in used Tonneau oak (2nd passage), followed by minimum 6 months of aging. Finally, bottle-aged for minimum 6 months.

**92 Points, Vinous:** "The 2021 Barbera d'Asti Superiore Bionzo is redolent of blackberry, gravel, incense, licorice, graphite and dark spice. As always, the Bionzo is a brooding Barbera from Asti although these days the wines aren't as huge as they were just a few years ago."

**92 Points, Jeb Dunnuck:** "Coming from a single vineyard about 15 minutes away from the winery, the 2021 was aged for 16-18 months in Tonneau and boasts an opaque ruby red color in the glass. The nose has a serious expression with savory and layered notes of leather, balsamic herbs, menthol, plum, and fresh soil. Full-bodied, it has a vertical feel through the palate and is undoubtedly a structured wine in this vintage, with a snappy, bright spine of acidity, lush, ripe fruit, and refined tannins. It is rich and intense and will benefit from more time. It has a lot of savory herbal notes and will do well to cellar. Drink 2026-2040."

